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Agenda item 153
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Enclosed are some of the documents that were left behind by the Iraqi occupation forces in Kuwait after their defeat (see annex). They contain the instructions that were issued by the Iraqi military commands to their field units on the destruction of Kuwaiti oil wells and installations. These documents unveil, in detail, the Iraqi plans designed to cause the utmost devastation to the oil facilities in the shortest period of time possible.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Confidential and personal

Instructions for the timed demolition of the Umm Qadir oil field (43 wells)

1. Objective

To prepare the oil installations and vital targets in the Umm Qadir oil field (43 wells) for timed demolition.

2. Responsible commander

Major General Saleh Abbud, General Staff, Commander of the 3rd company, following the consent of the Commander General of the Armed Forces, and his alternate will be Major General Sabah Nuri Alwan, General Staff, Commander of the Rear Army Corps.

3. Classification

The demolition is classified at the present time as timed demolition.

4. Priorities

The targets in the Umm Qadir oil field all have the same priority.

5. Troops and duties

The commander of the demolition guard will be Lieutenant Colonel Salih Ahmad Sultan, General Staff, and his alternate will be Lieutenant Colonel Abd Muhammad Yasin.

First. Receipt of initial orders by form 823, annex A.

Second. Command of the demolition guard detachments and explosion sections at the demolition site.

Third. Ensuring protection of the demolition against enemy attack.

Fourth. Control of passers-by inside the demolition zone.

Fifth. Issuing of orders to the commander of the explosion section in writing with regard to replacement of the state of preparedness by form 822, annex B.

Sixth. Notifying the responsible commander or his alternate constantly of the position with regard to procedure of demolition preparation operations and the situation at the demolition site.

Seventh. Submission of a report to the responsible commander on the degree of impact of the demolition after its completion.

(b) Demolition guard force

First. Company with 83rd Infantry Brigade responsible for protection of oil complex No. 17 and its nine oil wells in the southern part of the Umm Qadir field. Its commander is First Lieutenant Hamid Faza' Khalif, and his alternate is First Lieutenant Colonel Ilyas Muhammad Ali Abd al-Husayn.

Second. Company with 84th Brigade responsible for protecting complex No. 18 and its oil wells in the northern part of the Umm Qadir field. Its commander is First Lieutenant Colonel Azzu Mahmud Balu, and his alternate is Lieutenant Hasan Hadi Jabir.

Third. The demolition guard force has no other duty except that of protecting the oil wells, which number 43, and the oil installations in the southern and northern parts of the Umm Qadir oil field. The force must ensure full protection for the demolition targets and see that they do not fall into the hands of the enemy before the order is issued for explosion.

(c) Explosion section

The commander of the explosion section will be Lieutenant Colonel Sa'd Abd al-Samad Sa'idi, and his alternate will be Captain Dhiab Karim. The explosion section will have no other duty, and will be technically responsible for the demolition. The duties of the commander of the explosion section will be as follows:

First. To maintain the state of preparedness in accordance with orders.

Second. To investigate the system daily.

Third. To carry out the demolition upon orders and to ascertain its success.

Fourth. To give notification of the results of the demolition.

6. Measures

(a) The charges will be connected with regard to the oil wells, as explained in the plan in annex C. The other targets will be linked in the sensitive zones of the target.

(b) The demolition wires will be connected to each group of oil wells. The wires will be buried or covered with sandbags to prevent them being affected by enemy bombardment.

(c) Means of ignition are not to be introduced into the explosives until after the degree of preparedness 1 (security) has been raised to degree 2 (armament).

(d) A reinforced position will be dug near each target group at a distance of ????-1,000 metres from the target/targets, to be manned by the officer responsible for the explosion with an explosive device.

(e) A reinforced position will be prepared for the commander of the guard section in the central zone so as to ensure that orders reach the explosion sections promptly. The headquarters of the commander of the demolition guard and the commanders of the demolition guard and the explosion section must be close to each other.

7. Communications

(a) Wireless communications shall be ensured with the commander of the demolition guard through the division command network.

(b) Wireless communications shall be ensured between the commander of the demolition guard and the commander of the explosion section.

(c) A liaison officer with a wireless apparatus operating through the division command network shall have no other duty except to transmit explosion orders to the commander of the demolition guard or the commander of the explosion section.

8. Report

Measures shall be scrutinized by the division personally. We have set up a committee headed by Lieutenant Colonel Salih Ahmad Sultan, General Staff, commander of the 84th Infantry Brigade, Lieutenant Colonel Sa'd Abd al-Samad Sa'idi, commander of the 3rd Armoured Engineering Battalion and Captain Ahmad Hamad Atiyah, Security Officer, to scrutinize and follow up the accuracy of measures taken to prepare the targets for timed demolition and completion of the necessary steps. The Committee will submit a daily report to HA, III Army Corps, endorsed by the division commander and set out on the annexed form (annex D).

9. General points

(a) The conduct of constant operations (day/night) until the orders for explosion are received.

(b) Preparation of targets for demolition and additional means.

(c) Ensuring that all targets have artillery units within range.

(d) Daily coordination with HAFL/3 on all problems and obstacles that emerge in the preparation of the targets for demolition.

(e) A detailed summary shall be given during the operation of taking over and surrendering the targets in accordance with the new plan.

(f) Takeover of all demolition materials in accordance with the rules and with due documentation within 72 hours from the issuance of the above-mentioned instructions.

Brigadier General Sa'd Salih Mahdi, General Staff,
Commander of the XXIX Infantry Division

Brigadier General Sabah Matrud Shuwai', General,
Chief of General Staff, XXIX Division

Annexes
Annex A, form 823
Annex B, form 822
Annex C, charge connection locations
Annex D, form for follow-up report

Form for orders to the commander of the demolition guard

Serial No. ( )

Orders to the commander of the demolition guard

1. This form must be completed and signed before being handed over to the commander of the demolition guard.

2. When filling in the form, the blanks must be filled in or crossed out.

3. The officer having the authority of commander of the explosion is called "the responsible officer". From To

Section I

Initial instructions

1. (a) Specifications of the target:

(b) Location:

(c) Name and scale of map: Map No.:

(d) Coordinates:

(e) Cipher or code name (if any) for demolition target:

2. The responsible commander is:

(Mention position only.) If this officer is invested with the authority of another, this should be notified by one of the means set forth in item 4 below:

3. The explosion section will be commanded by:

4. All correspondence containing ciphers or code names (if any) and used in these orders will be transmitted to you by:

(a) The wireless network of the regular command;

(b) Special liaison officer in direct contact with the responsible commander; or

(c) A telephone call from the responsible commander; or

(d) The responsible commander in person; or

(e) (Omission of paragraphs that are not relevant).

Note. All orders transmitted by letter in cipher or code (if any) shall begin as indicated in item 1, paragraph (c), with acknowledgement of receipt being required in all cases.

Section II

Change of states of preparedness

5. Preparations must be made for demolition so as to achieve the state of preparedness:

at on

6. Upon arrival at the demolition site, you must ascertain from the commander of the explosion section the estimated time for changing from state 1 (security) to state 2 (armament). You must ascertain that this information has been transmitted to the responsible commander and that acknowledgement of its receipt has been given.

7. The change of the state of preparedness from state 1 (security) to state 2 (armament) or from state 2 to state 1 must be effected by an order from the responsible commander. Nevertheless, the explosion section may be armed to carry out emergency demolition, if the commander of the explosion section is authorized to proceed on his own initiative.

8. You must record any changes in the state of preparedness in the table below, together with the explosion orders in the possession of the commander of the explosion section.

State of preparedness ordered 1 (security) 2 (armament)	Time and date of change	Completion	Authorization	Receipt of order

Note. If authorization is transmitted to an officer, his signature and rank shall be taken and entered in the column under the heading "authorization".

9. You must inform the responsible officer of any changes that occur in the state of preparedness by the fastest possible means.

Section III

Explosion orders

10. You will be sent the explosion orders by the responsible commander.

11. Upon receipt of the orders, you must issue them as speedily as possible to the commander of the explosion section on the explosion orders (orders to the explosion section) form.

12. After the demolition has been carried out, you must notify the responsible commander of the direct results.

13. If the demolition fails or is only partially successful, you must provide protection for the explosion section until the demolition is completed, and you must report again upon its completion.

Section IV

Emergency explosion orders

Note. Cross out one of the subparagraphs of item 14 below. The orders issued hereby cannot be changed except by the issuance of a new form or in the event of emergencies by a special order or a code message if used in section V.

14. (a) You must not issue any order for explosion except on the basis of receipt of an order to that effect from the responsible commander.

(b) If you expect that the enemy will take over the target, you may order explosion on your own initiative.

Section V

When using ciphers

Measures to be taken — Ciphers (when used)

(a) Change the state of preparedness from 1 to 2; see item 7.
(b) Change the state of preparedness from 1 to 2; see item 7.
(c) Proceed with demolition; see item 10.
(d) Now cross out item 14; you are now authorized to proceed with explosion if you believe that the enemy will take over the target.
(e) Cross out item 14 (b); you must issue an order for explosion, after receipt of the order from the responsible commander.
(f) Special issuance instructions, if any.

Section VI

Signature of officer issuing these orders:

Name:

Rank: Appointed:

Time of issuance: Hour: Date:

Section VII

Duties of the commander of the demolition guard

You are responsible for:

(a) Commanding the demolition guard and the explosion section.

(b) Protection of the demolition from enemy attacks or saboteurs.

(c) Control of passers-by and fugitives.

(d) Issuing the demolition orders to the explosion section in order to change the state of preparedness.

(e) After the demolition, you are to submit a report to the responsible commander on the extent of its impact.

(f) Notifying the responsible commander of the situation with regard to movements at the demolition site.

16. You are to read the orders issued to the explosion section and the instructions issued.

17. The demolition guard must be positioned so as to ensure constant protection from all directions against all types of attack or threat of attack.

18. The commander of the explosion section will have control over the demolition, and you must agree with him on a choice of location for your headquarters and the explosion point, which must be coordinated as far as possible. Upon the establishment of these two locations, you must turn your attention to the technical requirements. The demolition must be visible from your post, and it must be in close proximity to the explosion point.

19. You must appoint your deputy and prepare a list showing seniority. It must be ascertained that everyone knows his seniority in the list, understands his duties and knows where this form is in the event of your absence from headquarters on grounds of necessity. The register of seniority must be known to the commander of the explosion section.

20. Upon issuance of the order for state of preparedness 2 (armament), you or your deputy must be at headquarters constantly in order to transmit orders rapidly to the commander of the explosion section.

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

The martyrs are nobler than all of us.

III Army Corps Command
General Staff
(Movements)

/...

Confidential and personal

No. /H2/ /8209

Date: 20 November 1990

2: III Armoured Division Command

V Motorized Division Command

VII Infantry Division Command

VIII Infantry Division Command

XIV Infantry Division Command

XVIII Infantry Division Command

XXIX Infantry Division Command

XLII Infantry Division Command

Subject/timed demolition

In order to reduce the time required to effect the blowing up of the wells once the order for this is issued, each group of wells is to be linked by a single demolition circuit and blown up at the same time.

We request action accordingly.

Salah Abbud Mahmud
Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff,
Commander of the III Army Corps
20 November 1990

Copy to:

ShA, III Army Corps - Your confidential and personal letter 321 of 16 November 1990. We request precise execution of the above and our notification.